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# SOCCER WORLD

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AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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CONTINENTAL  
CHOCOLATES

Vol. 17, No. 6.

54 Renwick Street, Marrickville. — Tel.: 55-6877

February 22, 1974



Derek Smith scores Croatia's first goal against Wests with this diving header despite Steve Perry and Col Curran.

## Seven chase Ampol semis

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Seven teams are still in the running for a spot in the semifinals with the last round of the Ampol Cup coming up this week.

Croatia, Pan Hellenic and APIA are in contention from Group "A"; St. George-Budapest, Canterbury, Marconi and Auburn in Group "B".

Hakoah, the holders, only have an academic interest this weekend.

Their shock defeat against Sutherland has knocked them out of the Cup, but their game against APIA on Sunday will still have a tremendous bearing because the identity of the semifinalists from Group "A" may only be known after this, the very last of the round-robin matches.

For Croatia, the issue is straight-forward: a draw with Pan Hellenic on Wednesday will see them through to the semifinals for the first time.

Pan Hellenic's fate also rests in their own feet: they will reach the semis for only the second time if they beat Croatia.

Four teams are on five points in this tight group, where this week's St. George v. Canterbury will eliminate the loser.

Both, however, could drop by the wayside if they draw while Auburn beats Yugal-Prague and Marconi defeats Safeway.

### GOALS

Goal-difference seems likely to come into effect to determine the semifinalists.

In the event of teams having the same goal-difference, then the team which has scored the highest number of goals finishes ahead.

Last week's round did nothing for soccer's image.

Six players were sent off (including three from Marconi) and two of our best players — Ray Baartz and Gary Manuel — were injured and took no further part in their matches early in the piece.

Now is the time for the Executive, the referees and the P & D Committee to clamp down on violence.

Nobody wants to see a repetition of last week's rough stuff when the premiership is under way.

Last weekend's attendance of 12,000 spectators brought this year's Ampol crowds almost to the same level as last year's total figure.

With one round remaining, plus the semifinals and the final, attendances may be up more than 50 percent on 1973.

### IMPORTANT

## TO ALL OUR WORLD CUP TRAVELLERS

All you lucky people who have booked on the "Soccer World"-BOAC World Cup tour are requested to get in touch as soon as possible with:

• Richard Crammer (Atlantic and Pacific): 25-7986

• Ray Seaward (BOAC): 28-1773

to confirm your requirements for tickets and accommodation for Australia's matches.

Tickets for the Aussie games and accommodation in Hamburg have now been secured.

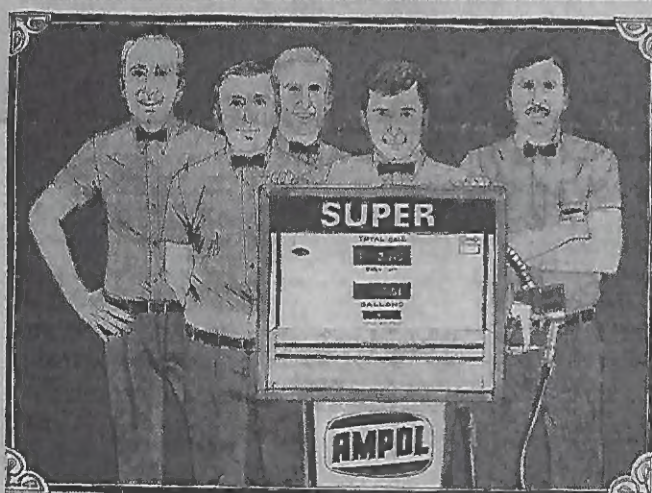
We are proud to announce that 300 NSW soccer fans have booked with us — the biggest contingent for a sporting event ever to leave Australia.

### SAINTS BENEFIT

APIA will be hoping for a Croatia win as it would then allow them to only draw with Hakoah to secure one of their many passages to the Ampol Cup semifinals.

St. George were the great beneficiaries of last week's round.

They jumped to the lead in Group "B" as a result of their win over Yugal-Prague, Auburn's defeat against Safeway and the incident-packed draw between Marconi and Canterbury.



# Support the home team.



The company that  
supports soccer.

## WHAT A GOAL!



A bird's eye view of Wests' equaliser against Croatia last Sunday. Ken Lindsay (No. 9) was the scorer.



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### HAKOAH Eastern Suburbs SFC Ltd.

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Friday, February 22: YOUTH NIGHT

Saturday, February 23: First Show — PETE CAUZADO  
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SHARON O'BRIEN — Sydney's most beautiful Singer.

Sunday, February 24: THE ROVERS — Leading Vocal  
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Tuesday, February 26: BRIDGE and CANASTA tourna-  
ments.

Wednesday, February 27: GORDON BOYD — Compete  
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Friday, March 1: YOUTH NIGHT with superb group.

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Sunday, March 3: AL STYNE — Mr. Nice Guy.

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COL JOYE, LITTLE PATII and THE JOY BOYS.  
Booking Fee \$1.00. Tickets at reception.

Saturday, February 23: JAN MAZURUS — Top Vocalist  
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Sunday, February 24: GALA HUNGARIAN FESTIVAL  
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Thursday, February 21: TALENT QUEST

Friday, February 22: CABARET.

Saturday, February 23: PATII LANE and ROBBIE —  
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Telephone: 661-3580

Thursday, February 21: IRISH NIGHT with Music, Songs  
and Dances from Ireland.

Friday, February 22: MODERN DANCE NIGHT with  
"THE TREND".

Saturday, February 23: DANCE. Guest artist "MR.  
BOOMERANG" — Bevan Rayner, Juggler.

Sunday, February 24: 4.30 p.m. — Selection of Yugoslav  
Films. Evening — Dance with "The Trend" and THE  
CAROUSELS.

Tuesday, February 26: RHYTHM BLUES AND SOUL  
Music Night

Wednesday, February 27: CONTINENTAL CABARET.

## club patrol

WESTERN SUBURBS will play two matches in Brisbane on March 2 and 3. One of the games will be against the progressive Lions club (ex-Hollandia), sponsors of their visit to Queensland.

The World Cup ART UNION, in aid of the Deaf and Blind Children, will only be drawn on May 3, not on February 1 as per the tickets. Sponsored by the NSW Soccer Beef and Burgundy Club, the first six prizes are cup-  
lights to the World Cup.

Great news for Wests. Talented English striker IAN BACON has returned and IAN MOORE will be back early next month. ALAN AINSLIE, too, is on his way home. This talented trio should again make Wests one of the teams to beat in the championship.

STAN ACKERLEY, one of the best fullbacks to ever grace the Australian scene, last week was transferred from Croatia to Inter-Suburban Toongabbie for \$350. Stan will be Toongabbie's

The Federation has not yet established the position with profits from the Ferencvaros tour. However, the takings on the Ferencvaros-Australian XI match at the Sportsground were \$24,500, which should assist towards a reasonable return on the tour towards Federation administration expenses and the Parklea ground purchase. Ironically, St. George-Budapest who did some of the spadework for the tour, will lose about \$2,000.

player-coach. We wish him well in his new career.

We are sorry to hear of the passing of ERNIE LANE, a keen soccer official in Sydney for over 30 years. Even until the last year or so Ernie would take a line appointment to be close to his beloved refereeing. Condolences to his wife and family.

Brings back memories RON LORD at full stretch at the Sports Ground, tipping a shot from FRANK LANG over the bar. The occasion was the International XI v. St. George Old Boys game, and once again the crowd enjoyed a tremendous extra treat. Saints won 4-3.

New Zealand's World Cup striker ALAN MARLEY is playing hard to get. Marley, who settled in Brisbane after last March's tournament in Australia, was all set to join St. George-Budapest last year, but changed his mind in the last moment after it was reported he was ready to sign. Two weeks ago Western Suburbs almost got him to sign the dotted line, but again the player, who is married to a Queensland, got cold feet when it came to the crunch.

RALE RASIC last week spent two days in Bundaberg, North Queensland, as guest of honor at one of the biggest soccer presentations ever staged in Queensland.

SUTHERLAND's Ampol Cup win over Hakoah at Garside Park last Friday was their first win away from Seymour Shaw Park since the team won promotion to First Division at the end of 1971.

Talking of Parklea, Federation treasurer CHARLES VALENTINE was happy to report to the Executive that the purchase of the second parcel of land has finally been completed. The NSW Federation's holding now exceeds 25 acres.

BALGOWNIE must pay increased ground rental charges this season. The Magpies face the prospect of having their rent on Balgownie Sportsground increased by nearly 100% by the local council.

Safeway United expect an experienced SCOTTISH DEFENDER to arrive at Woonona very shortly. He toured Australia with the Scottish FA team in 1967.

St. George's promising midfielder, BRENDAN GROSSE, has passed his first year law examinations at Sydney University with flying colors.

STEVE PERRY should profit from his association with Wests' World Cup defender Col Curran, whose form to date has been tremendous. Perry's transfer fee did not benefit Sutherland entirely in cash, due to the previously deferred payment for David Johnston.

SUTHERLAND, in conjunction with the Shire Council, are erecting new lights

their first team. Seventeen-year-old ROGER McNAUGHTON, a third grader, came on in the second half against Hakoah and contributed to his team's shock, but fully deserved, 1-0 win.

FIL BOTTALICO, coach of APIA's juniors, is keen to hear from youngsters who would like to join the Leichhardt club. Bottalico himself coaches the APIA under-13s. Fil's phone number is 797-7548.

Tuesday, February 5 must have been "Referees' Day", or at least referees' wives day. PETER RAMPLEY was presented with a son, Warwick Martin, and LAURIE SMIT, former secretary of the NSW Referees, with a daughter. Congratulations!

The Illawarra Soccer Referees' Association is holding its own "mini" referee REFRESHERS' COURSE this Sunday, February 24. Field demonstrations will be held at the Corralong ground by well known Sydney referees Roy Pearce and Frank Johns. World Cup stars Peter Wilson and Adrian Alston will be there to represent the players. Lectures will be held indoors at the Corralong Leagues Club. Keith Lockey will be guest lecturer. Noel Vidler, president, and Alan Dobson, secretary of the Sydney Division of the Australian Soccer Referees' Federation, will also attend the programme which starts at 10 a.m. and finishes at 6 p.m.

The Soccerers have been continually filmed over the past couple of weeks by two GERMAN TV crews. Apart from match scenes, the players were taken in a story that followed their training workouts, motel conditions, a few of the players at home and on Sydney beaches, and on tour around the sights of Sydney.

VIC LOWRY, the former Canterbury forward, is back on deck again and keen to get a clearance to play in Second Division with the Manly-Warringah club.

RAUL CARRIZO, signed from Marconi Fairfield last Friday, turned out for Pan Hellenic as replacement for Gary Mannel last Sunday. Carrizo was inclined to steady down the play, but he will be a worthwhile reinforcement when he settles down in the team.

The crew of the luxury liner "SS FRANCE" last Saturday played a social match against Chelsea. The inter-suburban team won 4-0, with goals by Pearson, Tulloch, Todd and Grant. The sailors presented each Sydney player with a token before the kick-off. A jolly time was had by all at Centennial Park.

Congratulations to GEORGE BLUES, who last week obtained his coaching certificate.

on Seymour Shaw Oval. Tenders have been called to upgrade the playing surface in the off-season.

Floodlighting is soon expected to be erected at LAMBERT PARK, which would then be a natural venue for Ampol Cup matches. There is no doubt that a more central ground than Garside Park or Marconi Oval would attract at least 2,500 to 3,000 more spectators to pre-season games.

Three women's teams from NEW ZEALAND will be in Sydney during the second week in March for matches against the local ladies. The three Sydney teams to oppose them will be chosen from four of Sydney's leaders, Blacktown Spurs, St. George, Ingelburn RSL and Seven Hills United.



According to a story in the "Lancashire Evening Post", ADRIAN ALSTON has rejected an offer to play for English Second Division club Blackpool. Again, according to the article, written by Alan Hubbard, "Noddy" is paying for his father to watch Australia's World Cup matches in Germany.

Sydney's referees had an unusual assignment last week. They played a match against the inmates of PARRAMATTA PRISON. The game was refereed by Harold Parsons.

HARRY WILLIAMS' viral encephalitis was big news last Friday. The three commercial television channels interviewed him at St. George hospital and he made the headlines in one afternoon newspaper. Harry's condition is now satisfactory and he was expected to be released before the weekend. Doctors have assured him he will be able to play in a couple of weeks.

Sutherland last week introduced yet another teenager to

**SOUTH SYDNEY-CROATIA S.F.C.**  
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# — Letters to the Editor —

## SOCCEROOS

Much has been said on Australia's chances in the World Cup finals, and having been a football coach for more than 20 years in my country I believe that I for one should have something to say in that respect.

First of all, although I'm just a nobody in authority here, I would like to congratulate the Soccerroos for a job well done.

Since my arrival a little over a couple of years ago, I had the opportunity to observe that soccer has been gaining popularity thanks to playing migrants from Europe and South American countries.

Coach Rasic deserves not only kudos and the support of the Australian Soccer Federation, but also of the people as well for placing Australian soccer at par with the best in the world in qualifying for the finals of the World Cup.

I sincerely believe that considering their fighting spirit shown in winning the elimination Asian series played here against Iran, Iraq, Indonesia and New Zealand, and later subduing South Korea in a deciding game held in Hong Kong, the Soccerroos won't let Kangaroo land down.

They are capable of creating a surprise by beating Germany in the World Cup.

Only a miracle, however, will enable them to beat or break even with the powerful West Germany.

Undoubtedly, soccer has established its place among the top level sports in Australia because of the success achieved by the Soccerroos in qualifying for the World Cup for the first time.

If soccer continues gaining popularity here, I won't be surprised to see the game competing at par with cricket and rugby.

The Australian Soccer Federation must now keep up a comprehensive grassroots program in order to maintain the continuity of interest in the sport as well as develop worthwhile material to take over places vacated in the national team for international competition.

Soccer, in my humble opinion, is the best sport, considering that the game no matter what language they speak is played all over the world, including Africa where the players lack the ball barefooted.

Soccer trains the individual to be a man of decision later in life inasmuch that in a split second a soccerite must decide whether to dribble or pass the spheroid.

It also teaches the player how to take it as a good sport and prepares an individual in facing his responsibilities as a man brought to this world to make it worth living.

In conclusion, let's hope for the best for the Soccerroos, who have shown pride and fighting spirit in making it to the finals.

Coach Rasic deserves all he support we can give him, let's not deny him and give him his due credit.

RICKY S. ILANOS,  
Harris Park.

## CYPRIOAT COACH

Spiros Messios, a 38-year-old Cypriot, married with three children, living at Bondi Junction, and employed as a storeman with Kensington Motors, arrived in Australia several months ago and as a soccer coach he equals Jack Gibbons (ex-Hakoah) with his extensive knowledge and thoughtful methods.

I sponsored Messios because whilst in Greece in 1969 I became a member of the Greek Federation of Referees.

I was invited to referee in Cyprus by a member of the Apollon Club of Limassol.

The political turmoil rendered this quite impossible, but I accepted the journey offer and it was then I noticed the tradesmanlike methods of Spiros Messios and I predicted a great future for him in Australia.

I even went so far as to invite him here and explained I would take care of him like I did Manny Poulakakis and Triantafis.

Correspondence and eventual execution of this promised invitation sees Spiros quite

established here domestically and commercially.

Documents within the possession of Messios state that he was coach of Apollon Football and Athletic Club of Limassol, in Cyprus, from 1965 to 1967.

He has a letter of confirmation from the secretary of the Cyprus Football Association in Nicosia (D.W. Shehaides).

He has coached other Cypriot teams until August 27, 1973.

He is to be located at Kensington Motors (Head Storeman) 663-0455 whilst his home number is 389-7382.

He is an extremely polite and gentlemanly person, purposeful, imperturbable and will gradually succeed in Australian soccer.

His wish to gain recognition by building a second grade team and producing new players from the ranks is a sensible approach.

That is exactly what Emanuel Poulakakis did when he accepted my contract for him with South Melbourne-Hellas.

JOHNNY PHILLIPS,  
Geelong.

## RASIC AND RAMSEY

Mr. Bloor, of Double Bay, was entitled to comment about my World Cup feature, and was given a generous amount of space to do so in the February 8 issue of "Soccer World".

Yet, he seems to be confused about facts and opinions.

It was my OPINION that England's talented professionals had produced disappointing results in the recent series under the guidance of Ramsey, with only one win in the four matches against Wales and Poland.

I made no comments about the 1970 competition, when England did not have to play any preliminary games to reach the finals.

In any case, the team in those days was quite different, containing such magic names as Banks, Cooper, Mullery, Hurst and Charlton.

Regarding Mike Renwick's school, I can't see what this has to do with the World Cup or with my feature.

Presumably, some heavy sarcasm is intended, but I find it rather flattering — after all, Mike Renwick is a skilled writer who must have had an excellent education!

DAVID BATESON,  
Bondi Beach.

## JACK REILLY

I am deeply disgusted with the officials of the Australian national team.

Why did they leave Jack Reilly out of the team?

Jack has been, and still is, the best goalkeeper Australia ever had.

We want the best players to go to Germany — and Reilly is the best!

J. ALTAFUZA,  
Reservoir (Vic.).

# Dream come true for Tony Boskovic

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

First Australian ever appointed to referee at the World Cup final tournament — what an honor for Sydney's Tony Boskovic.

The path that will end in West Germany is no track to be faced by the faint-hearted.

Along the way have passed the Grand Finals, and tournaments throughout Asia.

The road started after Tony had been a junior player at some in Yugoslavia.

He passed his refereeing examinations at Zagreb city's Refereeing Academy in 1954, and in 1958 he migrated to Australia.



TONY BOSKOVIC

Refereeing continued as his sporting interest, and he soon progressed through the local ranks.

To date he has controlled 7 international fixtures.

Ambitious to succeed, he soon saw the signs that success must be achieved in Asia as well as in Australia itself.

He became increasingly well known for his displays

by handling matches in Indonesia, Singapore and Vietnam in 1967, and he went to the latter countries and Malaysia in 1970.

Tony's eyes were on the Mexico finals of 1970 but he was not well enough known at the time.

He handled the New Guinea finals in Port Moresby before a 20,000 crowd.

1973 was his big year. At Seoul he controlled two fixtures in the Asian Zone Group "A" World Cup tournament, and then on to Indonesia.

At Jakarta a crowd of almost 100,000 was present when he refereed the Burma-Indonesia final of the Anniversary Cup competition.

Asian officials took notice, and through came the big appointment.

Tony became a naturalised Australian in 1963 — the year of his first Sydney Grand Final. He has been employed as a sports goods salesman for many years.

His wife Anzela is proud of his attainments, as are his son Frank and young daughter Susan.

With 19 years refereeing behind him and still only 40, Tony can look forward to many big games to come.

The last few seasons, it is said, have mellowed strong-willed Tony somewhat.

But pity help the first player to ever test his patience. Or the second... or the third...

# WANTED: A COACH FOR THE NEW SOCCEROOS

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Who will coach the Australian team on tour at the end of the year?

The ASF at this stage is considering an overseas appointment.

It is even reported that the appointees could combine the post with that of NSW State coach and NSW Director of Coaching.

As the national team's commitments are strictly limited, it would be impracticable to appoint a full-time national coach.

As far as the immediate future is concerned, there is no need to appoint an outsider to take the Australian team away this year.

There are several local coaches who could do the job properly.

The ASF could do worse than to appoint either Les Scheinflug, the assistant World Cup coach, or Victorian State coach Tony Boggi.

Both have the advantage of being "ofay" with the local scene and will have no problem selecting the players for the tour.

This will be the most important part of the exercise as practically a whole new national squad will have to be selected after the World Cup, which will become the nucleus of the Australian team for the 1978 World Cup.

Boggi, 40, has excellent credentials; since taking over Victoria, he has achieved good results. His team played splendidly against Persepolis to only lose 2-3 and earned praise from the Hungarians.



RALE RASIC AND LES SCHEINFLUG  
...will Les be Rale's successor?

Boggi has spent plenty of time with the Australian team in the past 12 months and enjoys a close relationship with Rale Rasic, whose contract with the ASF ends after the World Cup.

Les Scheinflug needs no introduction. He was the NSW State coach and has been closely connected with the current World Cup squad, which he will accompany to Germany as Rasic's deputy.

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# SYDNEY SCORES

## RESULTS & SCORERS

### Sutherland

1 (0)

Johnston 58 min.

### Hakoah

0 (0)

### St. George

4 (1)

Abonyi 32 min., Herron 46 min., B. Harris 53 min., Morgan 65 min.

### Yugal-Prague

2 (1)

Perry 34 min., Simpson 68 min.

### Croatia

2 (1)

D. Smith 25 min., Sullivan 63 min.

### Wests

1 (0)

Lindsay 37 min.

### P. Hellenic

2 (2)

Munk 21 min., Ilie 34 min.

### A.P.I.A.

2 (2)

Bell (own goal) 12 min., Butler 14 min.

### Canterbury

1 (1)

Pocock 30 min.

### Marconi

1 (1)

A. Griffiths 23 min.

### Safeway

3 (2)

McGroarty 4 and 17 min., Bingham 68 min.

### Auburn

2 (0)

Keddie 52 min., Deller 55 min.

## HOW THEY

Maher 5, Branson 3  
Wykes 4, Johnston 4, Tho  
(McNaughton 53 min.), B  
TOTAL: 38.

## Match rating

Madeschi 4, Fekete 4  
Marnock 3, Mackay 4, Wo  
Baartz (replaced by Watso  
(replaced by Barnes, 3, at  
TOTAL: 35.

Fraser 3, Utjesenovic 4  
Coton 4, Stoddart 3, Herron  
B. Harris 4, McDonald 4.  
TOTAL: 41.

## Match rating:

Bracklow 3, Trkulja 3  
Nacinovic 3, Velkovski 3 (B  
lovic 4, Serdarevic 3 (Simp  
Perry 3, J. Alagich 4.  
TOTAL: 36.

Corry 4, Wignall (sent  
Brady 4, Yeager 4, Sullivan  
Crone 3 (N. Clarke 60 mi  
TOTAL: 39.

## Match rating:

Eaton 3, Perry 3, Ferguson 3, Radcliffe 4, Cur  
ran 4, Gray 3, Byles 3, Turner 4, Lindsay 4, T. Smith  
3, Edmondson 3.  
TOTAL: 37. Coach: L. Scheinflug.

Maglis 4, Barr 3, Rudic 3, Barboutis 3, Bell 3  
(Buckley 53 min.), Stowell 4, Muniz 4, Harding 4,  
Brankin 3, Carrizo 3 (replaced Manuel 31 min.),  
Ilie 4.  
TOTAL: 38. Coach: Z. Rasic.

## Match rating: \* \* \*

Roberts 3, McGinn 4, Jenkins 4, M. Clarke  
(sent off 34 min.), McGhee 3, Russell 3, Blues 3,  
Rooney 5, Ollerton 3, Rogers 3, Butler 4.  
TOTAL: 35. Coach: T. Anderson.

Hawthorne 4, G. Brown 4, Hardy 3, Henderson 3,  
J. Xipolitas 3, Balafas 3, Armytage 3, R. Brown 4,  
Pocock 4, Mullen 3, Welton 3 (Angelopoulos 68 min.).  
TOTAL: 37. Coach: L. Hegyes.

## Match rating: \* \* \* \*

Murray 4, Roche 3, Robertson 3, Moschan 4,  
Byrne 3, Richards (sent off 45 min.), Degney 3,  
Campbell 3, Brajkovic (sent off 46 min.), A. Griffiths  
4, Burns (sent off 46 min.).  
TOTAL: 27. Coach: L. Baumgartner.

Hesford 4, Roberts 3, Wilson 4, Tuckerman 3,  
Gleeson 4, Bingham 4, Fryer 2 (Thompson 55 min.),  
McGroarty 4, Tolson 2, Alston 4, Walker 4.  
TOTAL: 38. Coach: P. Wilson.

## Match rating: \* \* \* \*

Hoszowski 3, Lawson 3, Hughes 3, Malone 4,  
Leak 4, Hucker (sent off 59 min.), Parker 4, Stewart 3,  
Deller 4, Keddie 4, Milne 3 (Sidey 45 min.).  
TOTAL: 35. Coach: J. Marston.

## SHOP AT YOUR NEAREST

**Westfield SHOPPINGTOWN**  
WOOD, EASTWOOD, FIGTREE (Wollongong)  
HORNSBY, LIVERPOOL and MIRANDA.

## SUMMING UP THE MATCHES

Sutherland, tagged as relegation bait after their poor performances so far this season, rose to the occasion at Garade Park to knock Hakoah out of the Cup contention. It was a deserved win, not because Sutherland played better than Hakoah did, but simply because they succeeded in stopping and soiling every Hakoah move, particularly in midfield. Hakoah dominated a fast game and were continuously possession, but they seemed to stand back against determined bunch of tacklers who never stopped tugging. Full marks to goalkeeper Alan Maher, who not only made some brilliant saves, but whose timing cutting-off the Hakoah attacks was almost perfect. Paul Smith, Col Bennett and Peter Wykes also had their best games this season.

Crowd: 2,054 (double-header). Referee: T. Davies.

— CHARLES SPITERI

Although hard hit by injuries, St. George turned one of their best performances this season to face Yugal-Prague to a little more than token position. After a slow start that saw the Saints "bomb" some easy chances, they went into top gear after the interval, tearing big gaps in the Yugal defence and scoring three brilliant goals. Despite their ill skills, Yugal were on the receiving end throughout their two goals — one in each half — both came from very simple mistakes by Saints' defence. John McDonald showed top form and played a major part in St. George's win. Jim Herron and Abonyi were a constant threat in attack with some brilliant movements, while Manfred Schaefer and George Harris were extra-safe in defence and Barry Harris more than useful in midfield. For Yugal, only Alagich and Mihajlovic worried the opposition.

Crowd: 2,054 (double-header). Referee: P. Ramptey.

— CHARLES SPITERI

This was a match in two distinct parts. It was all Croatia in the first half. They scored a brilliantly executed goal to take the lead in the 25th minute, played some fine football, and seemed set for a comfortable win at halftime. Little was seen of Wests in the first period when their forwards created practically no chances at all. A remarkable transformation came over the game after the interval. Wests took control of operations from the word go and all but in a panicky Croatia off their feet. Wests continued to outplay their opponents after Lindsay's 37th minute header and Croatia's goose looked well and truly cooked when Wignall was sent off in the 50th minute. Their defence, however, held out somehow, and seven minutes from the end, against the run of the play, Derek Smith crashed a 40-metre drive against the bar, the rebound of which was pushed into the net by Sullivan for a sensational winning goal.

Crowd: 8,151 (double-header). Referee: H. Witschke.

— LOU GAUTIER

A spiteful match which almost got out of hand. All the goals, and the good football, was confined to the first half. APIA raced to a 2-0 lead between the 12th and 14th minutes, but Pan Hellenic were back on level terms by halftime — which was only justice as they played the more attractive soccer and built their attacks with greater cohesion. Both teams suffered a blow late in the first half when Hellenic's Gary Manuel was carried off after being fouled by McGhee and APIA reduced to 10 men for the rest of the game following Clarke's expulsion. The standard deteriorated in the second half. Though Pan Hellenic had more of the play and looked sharper, APIA held firm despite their numerical inferiority, and, in the final analysis, did not usurp their draw.

Crowd: 8,151 (double-header). Referee: F. Shiba.

— LOU GAUTIER

Referee Alan McKenzie sent three Marconi players off in a sensational sixty seconds 10 minutes into the second half. Richards, Brajkovic and Burns all got their marching orders for persistent dissent. This match blew up when McKenzie awarded Canterbury a penalty after Ross Brown had been upended by Roche. Hardy had three attempts with the spotkick and failed each time. The first occasion Murray saved, diving to his right, but the referee ordered the kick to be retaken as the goalie moved. Richards was then sent off. The second kick produced the same result with Burns and Brajkovic off for questioning the retaken kick. At the third attempt Hardy blasted wide. Marconi, reduced to eight men, held out for the remaining 25 minutes.

Crowd: 2,044 (double-header). Referee: A. McKenzie.

— PAUL POSETTI

Auburn's semifinal prospects received a jolt when Bingham scored the winning goal for Safeway, two minutes from fulltime with a floating shot from the touchline which eluded Hoszowski. Safeway reverted to a 4-3-3 line-up which included Shay Gleeson as stopper and their form was the best they've produced in the series. Hucker was sent off for allegedly kicking Wilson eleven minutes from the end while Hughes missed a penalty on the stroke of halftime. Auburn, after a lacklustre start, fought back strongly in the second period after Safeway led 2-0 at the break. Well taken goals by Keddie and Deller within the space of three minutes put the Tangerines back in the match. In the first half McGroarty had scored both goals for the provincials after Walker had played a major part in securing a firm grip on the midfield for United.

Crowd: 2,044 (double-header). Referee: B. Wilkinson.

— PAUL POSETTI

## Ferencvaros wins last match

St. George has absolutely as much right to crow about their 3-1 loss to Ferencvaros last week as they have to about their 0-0 draw with the Japanese national team and their premiership grand final wins.

In a scintillating encounter which deserved a much bigger crowd, the Saints led 1-0 and when Jimmy Herron hit the post in the 53rd minute with replacement "keeper" Laszlo Dohnjan never in the event, they were even within an ace of victory.

A team as unflappable as Ferencvaros is able to even capitalise on such a shaky situation. Within a twinkling Istvan Juhasz — a Hungarian "Bobby Charlton" if there ever was one — was lifting the ball over Jim Fraser's hands for an equaliser.

Two minutes later Szoke, so often the danger man, caught Fraser napping with an unexpected half-volley, and next Florian Albert provided just the ground ball that a striker dreams about for Branikovits to net their third and final goal.

Saints fought back at the end, and went close through both John McDonald and Neville Morgan, but they could not recapture their first half glory.

To all but match the second side in the



# AMPOL CUP 1974

Weather permitting, the last round-robin round should again draw well and come close to attracting a ground record at Garside Park on Wednesday (February 20) for the Group "A" match-at-the-summit between the unbeaten Croatia and Pan Hellenic.

Several of this week's matches are virtual semi-final eliminators.

Only one — Sutherland v. Western Suburbs — involves two teams with no semifinal prospects.

The outlooks as I see them:

## Yugal-Prague v. Auburn

The Garside Park pitch should suit semifinal-chasing Auburn, who can only blame themselves if they miss out after bombing a penalty at Woonona last Sunday.

Yugal-Prague's lack of motivation could be their downfall. The only team in their group without a win, their form has been nothing short of disastrous this season.

They have been found wanting in both defence and in attack. Their league prospects will be dim unless new talent is found in a hurry.

Auburn are no world-beaters, but at this stage they look a far more workmanlike side than their dejected opponents and should win despite their dismal record against Yugal.

## Croatia v. Pan Hellenic

This game should pack Garside Park to the rafters.

It's been some time since either team has had so much riding on the result of a match.

Pan Hellenic's task will be immeasurably harder without Gary Manuel, but Croatia will again be minus a key player — John Doyle.

Both teams have been playing some of the best football of the Ampol Cup, and what a joy it is to see Pan Hellenic at last developing into a ball-playing side.

I take Hellenic to win because they offer more possibilities in attack, even

without Manuel, but the match could go to Croatia without causing much surprise.

## West v. Sutherland

Though there's nothing at stake here, this should be an attractive "curtain-raiser" to Marconi-Safeway at Bossley Park.

Sutherland made all their critics eat their words with a heroic win against Hakoah last week. They may have been "buried" too soon. Coach Jimmy Livingstone's confidence in his kids may yet be justified, but Wests could have the edge on Friday.

They were unlucky to lose against Croatia. Their second half display, even allowing it was achieved against 10 men, was promising and they will even look better when Bacon, Moores and Ainsie rejoin the field.

Without Richards and Brajkovic, their chances of

beating United — a must if they are to make the semi-finals — will nosedive.

Safeway produced their best form of the Ampol Cup to beat Auburn last Sunday, but they still have a fair way to go before emerging as credible championship material.

Max Tolson, so passive, against Auburn, will be keen to impress his old home crowd and could give the Marconi defence a worrying time.

But if the locals field their strongest side they can grab both points.

St. George v. Canterbury

The winner of the early match at Wentworth Park will qualify for the semi-finals.

Who would have thought only three weeks ago that the newly-promoted Berries would fare so well?

Laurie Hegyes has worked wonders with a team where striker Ray Pocock will spell mortal danger for Saints' defence.

St. George are gradually playing themselves into form.

AUSSIES IN BRAZIL?

The Australian team's 1974 close season tour is likely to take in Latin America only.

ASF secretary Brian Le Fèvre said this week he may visit South America after the World Cup to negotiate for a six to eight-match tour of Chile, Brazil, Argentina, and perhaps also Uruguay and Mexico.

There was also the possibility, he added, that the tour may be handled by an agent or an airline because of currency problems.

A lot could depend on how the Socceroos fare in West Germany.

A respectable showing could clinch several invitations to South America, but mediocre performances could throw cold water on the whole project.

— L. G.

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### Jock Stein earns big money

On and off these past few years Jock Stein has had his name linked with various English clubs, but has turned them all down. And with good reason, too. No English club could make his switch worthwhile financially! Celtic's latest balance sheet reveals Stein earned between \$24,000 and \$30,000 last year. It is estimated that Arsenal's Bertie Mee gets only a couple of thousand or so more.

### Prodigal sons return

The West German Football Association has finally buried the hatchet over the huge scandal that began nearly three years ago. The FA has forgiven the Schalke 04 players suspended for throwing a match against Bielefeld in April 1971. It has called its prodigal sons home because the scandal has affected game attendances and hurt West German soccer as a whole. The FA chiefs have also admitted they feared the bad feeling it has caused would spoil the World Cup finals. The star players' return has boosted Schalke's attendances — and performances. The German FA now hope that the official end of the Schalke scandal will bring back all of the 400,000 disenchanted fans who gave the game away last season (see story Page 7).

### Jimmy Hogan dead

Jimmy Hogan, the English coach of many Hungarian and Austrian teams in the 1920s, generally regarded as the "father" of Central European soccer, died in England at the age of 92.

### Japan tours without stars

Japan went on a Southeast Asian tour last week without their two best strikers, the injured Kamamoto and the unavailable Sugiyama. The Japanese will play in Hong Kong, Singapore and in Malaysia.

### Snip-shape — Bristol fashion

Bristol City players have had haircuts all round by order of coach John Sillett. Says Sillett: "I am not insisting on their having a short back and sides, but my order is that the hair shall not come below the collar. I can't see how a player can be comfortable with really long hair, especially when he gets sweaty during a game". To make sure the players keep in trim, Sillett has appointed a local hairdresser as club barber to make monthly visits to the ground.



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**H**ow can any country afford it? That's the never-ending question about huge events like the World Cup. As far as West Germany is concerned, the answer lies partly in a huge lottery... the "Glücksspirale". Started for the Olympic Games, it is being carried on for the World Cup. In three years to 1972, it drew in over \$100 million and paid out nearly \$40 million in prize money. A recent "starter" towards the World Cup produced \$5 million.

● Portuguese competition leaders, Sporting Lisbon, were beaten 4-2 by Hong Kong in their second match in the Crown Colony. Also in Hong Kong, Sporting beat Juventus Sao Paulo (Brazil) 1-0.

● Spanish First Division football has been plagued by a spate of player violence in the first half of the season. Twenty-eight players have already been sent off and another 59 have had their names taken. Eight players have copied suspensions for assaulting or threatening referees.

● The new boss of the Dutch national team, Barcelona-based Rinus Michels, flew to Holland last week for a meeting with all First Division coaches to get their views and opinions on players vying for World Cup selection. Michels is expected to make several changes to the squad for the finals.

● When Joe Gallagher captained Birmingham City a fortnight ago, he became the youngest English First Division skipper in a decade. Gallagher, 19, has only 21 first team appearances to his credit.

● English bookmakers are quoting Leeds United 4-1 favorites to win the Cup. Liverpool's odds are 6-1; Leicester and Newcastle's 12-1.

● How the mighty have fallen! Manchester United have yet to receive a single enquiry for George Best, since he has been transfer-listed. Best's name so far has only been connected with one club — Belenenses, of Portugal.

● Bill Shankly has signed another exciting young prospect in 20-year-old Ian McDonald, who played in the Fourth Division. The Liverpool manager rates McDonald one of the best talents he has unearthed, better than any of his other discoveries, Clemence, Lloyd or Lindsay.

● Malcolm Allison has rejected an offer by Vancouver's professional club. The Canadians were willing to pay the Crystal Palace manager \$50,000 for a one-year stint in British Columbia.

● Pele has contributed to two more books: "Playing with Pele" and "Learn with Pele". Both will have an initial print of 100,000 copies, for which he will collect author's rights worth in excess of \$100,000. Pele will also earn \$15,000 during the World Cup finals — as a TV commentator.

● Goalkeeper Sepp Meier has renewed his contract with Bayern Munchen until 1979. At one stage it was thought the club would let him go because of his indifferent form in recent months.

● The Czechoslovak Federation has suspended — for three to six months — several coaches accused of leaving their clubs before their contracts expired. Many club officials have also been punished for agreeing to release their coaches from their contracts — a most bourgeois "crime" in increasingly hard-line Czechoslovakia.

● Spanish national team manager Laszlo Kubala was happy to meet Yugoslavia in the World Cup play-off on February 13. He claims 13 is his lucky number. "My first international match for Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Spain was on a 13, and it was also on the 13th of the month that I successfully underwent the only serious leg operation of my career," he said before the match in Frankfurt. Wonder what he thinks now?

● "Sovietski Sport" is holding a referendum to find out whether Russian fans want the experiment of doing away with draws to continue. The revolutionary move, instituted 12 months ago, was received with a mixed reception. If a big majority of the Moscow newspaper's one million readers wants draws restored, the Soviet Federation may review its decision.

● In the course of the 23rd round of the West German championship, the 10,000th goal since the inception of the Bundesliga (National League) was scored. Ironically, the historic goal was an own goal, scored by Bochum fullback Galeski. Franz Beckenbauer, two years ago, had scored the Bundesliga's 9,000th goal and Netzer, four years earlier, had notched the 5,000th.

● There will be 20 clubs instead of 16 in Belgian First Division next season to help launch the country's first fully professional competition. Four Second Division clubs will be promoted at the end of the current season.

● Giuseppe Moro, Italy's 1950 World Cup goalkeeper, has died — destitute — in a Roman poorhouse.

● Moenchengladbach, the crack West German team, beat Israel's national team 1-0 in Tel-Aviv. It was the club's 18th victory since 1965 against a national team. Moenchengladbach enjoy such a good reputation that they are frequently invited to "spar" against national sides.

● The law suit by AS Roma's former president, Mario Marchini, against Heleno Herrera, has again been deferred. The judge wants more time to study the evidence presented by both sides in the sensational court case which has all Italy buzzing.

● FC Lucerne (Switzerland) have signed a new forward, the Yugoslav Ante Ivkovic, 27, from Hajduk Split. He is a former junior international.

● Tommy Docherty is no friend of his Scottish national team successor, Willie Ormond. The controversial Manchester United coach says: "If Scotland are amongst the first four in the World Cup, I'll walk home from Munich..."

● In case you wondered why Leeds' brilliant Irish captain, Johnny Giles, is not appearing on Australian television screens, he hasn't played in the first team since October 17 when he hurt his leg.

● Eddie Firmani, the ex-Anglo-Italian forward, has given the game away. He resigned as coach of Isthmian League side, Bromley, to concentrate on his business ventures.

● Wales have invited Argentina to play them in Cardiff after their match against England at Wembley on May 22.

### Moneybags Pele

Pele has been named the richest athlete in the world. He stands just ahead of golfer Arnold Palmer and substantially in front of Jack Nicklaus among the moneybags of professional sports. Pele earns close to two million dollars per year, according to a survey conducted for the "New York Post" newspaper. A proportion of this comes from soccer, of course, but the 33-year-old superstar also scores handsomely from the business empire he has built on his fame. Apart from advertising endorsements, Pele owns a rubber factory, sporting goods stores, a construction and plumbing supply business, two tailor shops and a publicity agency.

### Fans' Brazilian team

According to a readers' poll in the Rio afternoon newspaper, "O Jornal da Tarde", this should be Brazil's World Cup team: Felix — Carlos Alberto, Luis Pereira, Alfredo, Mario Antonio — Clodoaldo, Ademir da Guia — Jairzinho, Dirceu Lopes, Leivinha, Rivelino.

### UK Pools reap fortune

For the fourth successive season, the English Football Pools Promoters' Association reported a record turnover. The big five — Littlewoods, Vernons, Copes, Empire, and Zetters — knocked it off in season 1972-73 to the tune of £187,000,000 in stake money. Over £71,000,000 was paid out in dividends and the taxman collected £62,000,000. What's more, the indications are that, if punters continue the way they're going, this season is likely to bring yet another record high. It is a licence to print money so far as Littlewoods and Vernons are concerned. Between them, the pair take 91.1 per cent of the total business, leaving only 8.9 per cent to be competed for by the three smaller firms.

### South American Champions' Cup draw

This is the draw for the 1974 South American Champions' Cup: Group 1 — Huracan and Rosario (Argentina), Colo Colo, Universidad Catolica (Chile); Group 2 — Jorge Wilsterman and Municipal (Bolivia), plus the first two in order of finish in the Brazilian National League; Group 3 — Nacional and Millonarios (Colombia), Portuguesa and Valencia (Venezuela); Group 4 — Defensor and Alianza (Peru), University Quito, Guayaquil (Ecuador); Group 5 — Cerro Porteno and Olimpia (Paraguay), Penarol and Nacional Montevideo (Uruguay).

### Zagalo's World Cup tips

Mario Zagalo, Brazil's manager, tips these teams to reach the quarterfinals (second round) in the World Cup: West and East Germany; Brazil and Spain; Holland and Bulgaria; Italy and Poland.

### Pele's shock award

Rather surprisingly, Pele was elected as South America's "Player of the Year", ahead of Brindisi (Argentina) and Rivelino (Brazil).

● Johan Cruyff last week became the father of a baby boy, Jordi, named after St. George, the patron saint of Barcelona. The Cruyffs would also have given a daughter a name with a Catalan connection. They would have called her Nuria, after the Virgin of the Pyrenees. Under the terms of his contract with Barcelona, Cruyff is allowed to visit Holland for 36 hours every week, at the Spanish club's expense.

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# WORLD CUP NEWS AND VIEWS



## Hamburg under missile threat!

— From HANS SCHMIDT in Frankfurt —

Hamburg police said last week they will provide increased security for World Cup matches there following a threat that SAM-7 missiles would be fired into the city's stadium.

A spokesman said police were investigating the threat that the missile would be fired during the match between East and West Germany on June 22. He said: "There are a number of indications that nothing will happen."

"However, we will provide increased security measures."

A letter to a local radio station threatened a missile attack on the stadium and warned fans to stay away from the game "If you want to stay alive."

The Germans are treating the possibility of full-

## CHILE IN ACTION



## WORLD CUP DIARY

● National team stars Heynckes and Muller are still the top scorers in the West German Bundesliga with 20 and 19 goals respectively.

● Siegfried Held, the fast Offenbach Kickers winger, is determined to make the World Cup squad. "I'm not old at 31 and certainly fitter than ever before," said the blonde striker who already played for Germany in the 1966 series in England.

● Włodzimierz Łabonksi was set to re-appear for Poona, after his serious injury, in the friendly match against Gelsenkirchen's Schalke on February 20. However, in the last minute Łabonksi suffered a relapse and may need another knee operation that could put him out of the World Cup. He was originally injured in the match against England last June, in Katowice where McFarland and Ball hacked him to bits.

● Gunther Netzer has not been released by Real Madrid for West Germany's matches later this month against Spain and Italy. Wolfgang Overath will fill his place in the team. Netzer's contract with the Spanish club only stipulates he must be free to train with Germany two weeks before the World Cup finals.

● Uruguay's World Cup hopefuls will make a month-long training tour in March and April, playing matches in Mexico, the United States, Venezuela and Haiti. The tour, aimed at bringing together the team's promising young stars who lack international experience and its veteran players abroad with foreign clubs, will last from March 20 to April 20.

● Since May 1971, when Kazimierz Gorski took over as Poland's national team supervisor, he has capped no less than 57 different players. This policy has paid off. Jan Domarski, who stood in for Lubanski at Wembley, has only scored one international goal — the vital one against England last October!

● The Uruguay and Zaire teams will spend a week each in Yugoslavia before setting up camp in Germany early in June.

● Let there be light... No one will be in the dark in Germany, whose World Cup stadia boast some of the best floodlighting in the world. Munich and Dusseldorf, with 1,800 lux each, have the strongest floodlights.

● Antonio Martinez, manager of the Chilean national team, has confirmed that his side will play no matches in Europe before the World Cup. They will arrive in Berlin straight from Santiago six days before the kick-off. Chile will play a couple of additional warm-up games in Japan in mid-May. Australia, meanwhile...

● Spanish boss Laszlo Kubala tips West Germany to win the World Cup. He also likes the chances of Holland, Italy and Brazil, in that order.

● Italy's Ferruccio Valcareggi will be in Port-au-Prince on March 18 and 22 to watch Haiti's matches against Uruguay. After "spying" on Italy's first round opponents, he will fly to Brazil to see Mario Zagallo's new-look team.

# SIR ALF BLAMES CLUBS FOR WORLD CUP FAILURE

While the rest of Europe becomes increasingly preoccupied with the affairs of the World Cup, Sir Alf Ramsey is still busy parrying attacks on him for England's failure.

Sir Alf, in fact, has found a new angle: he blames the English clubs for not producing the type of players as they once did.

"If our coaches and managers concentrated on the technical development of their players, instead of conducting public feuds in the pages of newspapers, English soccer wouldn't face a crisis," he said last week.

"I cannot improve the technical skill of our players: this is a matter for the clubs."

Ramsey is loyal as ever to his England stars.

"They did all they could for our success," he added. "Nobody can blame them."

"It's true that presently England hasn't got players with the class of Beckenbauer or Cruyff but the stamina and physical fitness of our players is perfect."

Bertie Mee, the Arsenal manager, quickly countered Ramsey's arguments.

"Sir Alf lives in dreamland," he snapped. "He does not recognise the true difficulties of today's English soccer."

"He refuses to acknowledge that the standard of our matches has dropped alarmingly and that many clubs face extinction."

"Even a famous and once wealthy club like Arsenal is having grave financial problems."

"At the end of the season we will be forced to disband our reserve team and we will employ only 16 or 18 professionals."

"Most other clubs are in the same boat. I estimate that by June England will have at least 1,000 unemployed professional soccer players."

Other critics of the controversial England manager won't let him off the hook with the simple excuse that the country has no great players.

"Ramsey moved liked anybody with unorthodox talent," one newspaper critic said.

"He would always prefer a Roger Hunt to a Jimmy

Greaves, a Chivers to an many English managers and coaches took their cue from Ramsey and tried to produce that type of a performer, and Stiles were his ideals, shunning or discouraging anybody with flair."

"Dull, unimaginative but industrious players like Ball and Stiles were his ideals, shunning or discouraging anybody with flair."

## SCHALKE STARS OUT OF THE WORLD CUP

West Germany has banned a number of star players from the World Cup.

The move affects six members of Schalke, allegedly involved in a bribery scandal three years ago.

Hardest hit are half Klaus Fichtel, defender Rolf Ruessmann and striker Klaus Fischer, who were thought to have selection chances.

The hard-line decision has come only two weeks after it lifted suspensions on Schalke's "scandal sinners."

They were banned from West German football for varying terms of years after the FA found them guilty of "throwing" a match against Bielefeld in April, 1971.

The players were said to have let their opponents win in return of a payment of \$10,000. They denied the charge.

An Association spokesman said: "We have banned these men because it would be unfair to select one or more for the World Cup team over the heads of other players who have not been involved in affairs of this kind."

National coach Helmut

Schoen agrees with the FA move. He said last week: "Letting these people play again is garden enough."

Schalke president, Guenther Seibert said: "We are building our own national eleven here. The FA decision will not affect our morale."

Schalke goalkeeper Norbert Nigbur is unaffected by the ban.

Schoen will try him out later this week in West Germany's two World Cup warm-up matches against Spain and Italy.

## PRICY LATINS

● The Argentinians will be paid \$20,000 for each of their pre-World Cup matches in Europe, which includes a game against England at Wembley on May 22.

● The Warsaw Press takes some pride in the Polish origin of Argentina's new coach, Vladislav Cap, whose father immigrated to Buenos Aires in 1935. Cap speaks some Polish and keeps in contact with relatives who live at Sanok, in south-east Poland. They plan a June family reunion in Munich.

● Italy's decision not to nominate controversial referee Concetto Lo Bello for the finals has created a furor in Italy. Lo Bello, one of the world's best-known referees, does not get along well with the Federation and his eviction is seen as a "punishment". The 30 World Cup referees were chosen on February 8.

## Cautious Buschner

Georg Buschner, the East German national team coach, says cautiously:

"We have advanced but we have much to do and want to — and must — concentrate on making full use of the time till June if we are to succeed in the World Cup."

The East German team is already showing signs of maturing into a well-balanced and potentially dangerous World Cup combination.

In the run-up to the 1974 finals they won all but one of their matches, scoring 18 goals — an average of three per game — and conceding only three in the process.

Joachim Streich, a 22-year-old tenacious ball winner, hammered seven of those goals.

In attack, he gets good support from 32-year-old Peter Duche, a veteran of four World Cup competitions, and the speedy Juergen Sparwasser.

In midfield, it is Hans-Juergen Kriesche, who plays the role that Guenther Netzer does so well for the West German side, and Bobby Moore earlier in the English eleven.

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# RICHARD ALAGICH COMES HOME LOCAL BOY MAKES GOOD — NOW MASTER COACH

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

When Richard Alagich, 29-year-old and Broken Hill-born, was preparing to return to Australia last November after studying in Yugoslavia since 1965, he asked for a reference from one of his teachers, Professor Milije Gabrijevic of the Faculty of Physical Education at the University of Zagreb.

Wrote the professor: "I am convinced that not only the individual clubs but the whole of Australian soccer will enormously benefit from his knowledge".

Richard is just back home with his wife, Mira, and their 18-month-old son, Rudolph.

He's been appointed as a teacher at Forest High School, and will take up coaching of Yugoslav's third team.

The professor is one of Yugoslavia's foremost coaching experts, and right now I'd bet three penalty kicks to an indirect free that he wasn't kidding when he wrote his above quoted punch line.

I'd go one further and wager (?) six goals to an off-side decision that Richard is literally Australia's most qualified coach.

And, to boot, he has the practical experience at youth coaching to back up his qualifications.

## Degrees galore

In nearly nine years away, Richard followed on his Physical Education diploma with a degree in the same discipline at Zagreb University, and added another degree in Kinesiotherapy.

My medical dictionary had precious little to say about this paramedical field, but further enquiry revealed that it concerns the treatment of responses in the body's nervous system.

OK, all good background, but what's that to do with football coaching?

Well, as Richard was preparing to return to Australia, the Croatian FA, in conjunction with the Yugoslav FA, recognised his skills by awarding him a two-year scholarship for a specialised course in soccer coaching.

Then, 3713 hours of lectures and demonstrations and 47 subjects later Richard received the university's diploma as a master football coach.

Largely theoretical, the cynics could say.

However, during the two-year period Alagich was joint coach of First Division Di-

namo FC's under-19 team, and they were Yugoslav champions for both seasons.

In fact, Dinamo technical director Marko Juric wanted him to stay on, but that wasn't to be.

## Satisfaction

For Richard, youth training with kids from 14 to 18 brings the most satisfaction, because control can be learnt and improvement is marked, whereas from 19 on he sees the main task as conditioning.

He'll try out his programmes with Yugoslav's third, and would absolutely relish the chance to coach a State under-16 side, provided he was also team selector.

He has been trained in a scientific approach to football, and Yugoslav methods must be high on the world tree.

Consider the evidence from Zagreb.

Distances travelled by players in the course of a match

are analysed computer-wise.

It was found that the average distance covered by a West German field player in an international match is 6.5 kilometres. Some Juventus players ran as much as seven kilometres in a match.

On this basis we'll need to be awful fit to be ready for the Germans.

Analysis also particularly proved the necessity to make greater use of the space along the wings in the course of a match to court success.

When Yugoslavia played Inter Milan, the Inter centre-half travelled 3.5 kilometres, and even took five shots at goal.

A somewhat lazy or over-shadowed Yugoslav centre-forward covered 1.5 kilometres and set up only two good shots at goal.

Richard has an analysis of Brazil's national team players' performances.

All bar Pele, that is, because the Pele contract fore-

bad his magic being quantified.

He even has a breakdown of the performance of Chile's national side, which will be of definite value.

## Biological adjustment

Amongst the host of matters examined by Professor Gabrijevic and his experts is one of biological adjustment by footballers to changed conditions when travelling.

Analysis prior to a recent trip to Brazil resulted in trial matches being played to a set time schedule.

One trial was even played at 1 a.m. to assist the players to adjust their body mechanisms to the changing conditions.

Such points, and a thousand more, are what the boy from Broken Hill has been trained to handle.

Looks like soccer has it's "broccoli" on the way, just as that other art of music had theirs.

## COOK'S TOUR OF MELBOURNE

There has been no developments so far on the future of Hakoah winger Gordon Cameron, who left the Middle Park side for a spell in Hong Kong soccer, then played in New Zealand before returning to Australia. First Division side Albion Rovers, whose player-coach is former Hakoah favorite Hugh Murray, are reported to be interested in securing the Scot.

Eric Thompson, the young English player who not long back joined George Cross from Queensland, has returned up north. And the Cross are disappointed although they have not given up hope he may yet return to them.

Frank Egry, who has been chairman of Melbourne Soccer Club for some considerable years, has stood down and is now retired from the game, although he still has an interest as a supporter. Frank has a dental laboratory in Pascoe Vale, Melbourne.

A bid is being made to bring Polish side LKS to Melbourne later this year. Former Polonia star Vic Janczyk, who recently returned to Poland, for keeps originally played with the Lodz club.

The evergreen Frank Miek, who captained Victoria against Ferencvaros and was one of their best players, is coming up for his 15th season in State League soccer. Frank came to Australia in 1959.

Still on the sidelines is Ian Shanks, who gave Melbourne six years' service before electing to stop on the touchline all last season after a hassle about playing terms. Shanks, who joined Melbourne as a 14-year-old and is still in his mid-twenties, would be a good buy for any club in need of a hard working halfback who revels in midfield play.

## MICK MICEVSKI'S POTENTIAL

Few players have reached the top as quickly as Mick Micevski, the 19-year-old Hakoah striker who will be included in the under-23 Australian squad for the Indonesian matches. Less than a year ago Micevski was playing in Metropolitan League soccer with Altona, then Hakoah forked out a considerable fee for his transfer and making his mark immediately for the Middle Park side, he finished up their leading scorer last season and has already installed himself as a member of the State team. But Micevski promising as he is, has plenty of rough edges to rub off before he becomes a fully-fledged footballer.

Andrew Czapnik, the talented Polonia midfielder who is a product of the club's juniors and has been a real force in their side over the past two years, is presently engrossed in studies which will eventually make him a fully-fledged architect.

The two George Cross Dundonians — John Gardiner and Tommy Fox — who have been on extended holidays back to their native Scotland, are both due back in time to be considered for the club's next game with Hakoah on Saturday. The brilliant John Gardiner, who has no peers as regards his skill in State League soccer, is interesting a Sydney First Division side. But I reckon they would be wasting their time chasing Gardiner. George Cross have no intention of parting with the player.

— JIM COOK

## Marrickville, Nth. Districts play-off for promotion

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

A two game "play-off" starting on Sunday will determine which team will fill the vacancy created by the amalgamation of Second Division clubs Enmore and Rosebery.

The games, on a "home" and "away" basis, will be played on February 24 and March 3 between Northern Districts, who finished last in Second Division last year, and Marrickville who finished second in Third Division.

Both games will be played on similar rules as when Ku-ring-gai and Enmore fought it out last season following the merger of the two Bankstown clubs.

Aggregate scores will be taken into consideration in the decision and if both teams are locked with equal scores after the two matches, a third game will take place.

The NSW Soccer Federation last week approved "in principle" the merger of Enmore Progressives and Rosebery Rhodes after the necessary information was submitted by the clubs.

They will now proceed in forming Newtown-Hellas to represent the two Greek-backed clubs, which under this set-up may well be a strong enough side capable of winning the championship and promotion in its first attempt.

The first of the two play-offs will be staged at Englefield Stadium on Sunday, and the second on March 3 will be at Mackay Park, Marrickville.

## THRILLED

After missing promotion by only one point, Marrickville officials are thrilled at the chance to prove their ability in higher company.

Even though the club was caught unawares by the sudden playoff, the club is rarin' to go despite the short time for preparation.

Players started training only two weeks ago and most are out of condition.

However, secretary-treasurer of the club, Bert Harvie, says: "The way the team was playing last year, we should have beaten half of the teams in Second Division."

Marrickville does not anticipate any new players and will go into the play-offs with exactly the same team that won them the Third Division round-robin in 1973.

In the round-robin at the end of last season, Marrickville beat promotion winners Rapid Riverside in the semifinal and toppled Ku-ring-gai 3-0 in the final.

The team will include brilliant midfielder and former Pan Hellenic player George McCulloch, who is also coach of the team.

Much depends on his driving force on the field and his vast experience in big time football will be invaluable in matches of such importance.

Until now, Marrickville, which have fostered junior soccer for the last 29 years, have been a lily-white amateur outfit, but if promoted to Second Division their status is almost certain to change.

There is already some talk of switching to semi-professionalism so that the team will be on equal footing with other Second Division clubs.

Most of the club's players have come through the club's junior ranks, but a number of Englishmen and Scotsmen made their way into the side for added experience.

President of Marrickville is Bruce Livingstone — a founder of the club when

it was formed 29 years ago. A keen sportsman, Livingstone played for 14 years with the club and is now a referee in the Canterbury District Referees' Association and also a cricket umpire.

Essentially a junior club when formed, Marrickville entered Federation soccer in the Inter-Suburban Third Division eight years ago.

A committee of seven people run the Federation teams, separate from the junior set-up, which last year fielded 22 teams of all ages in the various competitions.

Team-manager for first grade is Warren Watt.

## YO-YO

Northern Districts, in and out of Second Division like a yo-yo in recent years, will tackle Marrickville with a team of determined, but inexperienced youngsters.

The club has lost top players Larry Armitage, Geoff Green, Graeme MacKinnon, Sasha Perry and Chris Martin, who have all reverted to their former clubs.

Coach Joe Vlasits who took over the club last season and did a tremendous amount of work in unearthing talent, said this week he was trying to rebuild with youngsters and that the club must place its hopes on their ability.

"Northern Districts is a very good club, one of the few in Australia which has up-to-date facilities for soccer and other sports," he said.

"However, if the club is to get somewhere it has to adopt a more professional attitude."

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## ASIAN EXPERT PASSES AWAY

Les Channing, an internationally known journalist and soccer administrator died in Canberra earlier this month.

An occasional contributor to "Soccer World", he was a well respected but highly controversial journalist in Hong Kong for many years following World War II.

Australian-born of Chinese extraction, Les Channing decided to settle in Canberra and joined the staff of the "Canberra Times" where he soon became its Chief Court Reporter.

As a soccer fan and administrator, he kept abreast of current developments in the code by means of regular correspondence with leading soccer writers throughout the world.

Understandably enough, he was best known as an authority on Asian soccer affairs.

Mr. Channing is survived by his wife and four children, to whom we extend our condolences. JOHN HOLLAND